

INSIDE  
CC EMA director  
speaks to Elba  
Rotarians



Celebrate  
BLACK  
HISTORY  
MONTH

INSIDE  
Elba Lady Tigers  
advance to  
sub-region play



# The Elba Clipper

Volume 124, Number 39 50 Cents Elba, Alabama Thursday, February 18, 2021 1 Section, 8 Pages Plus 1 Adv Insert

## Elba Masonic Lodge gifts historical marker to City of Elba

The Elba Masonic Lodge #170 gifted an Alabama Historical Marker to the City of Elba during a ceremony held Saturday, Feb. 13, in Elba.

"The purpose of the marker was to not only honor our founding brothers but also to help support the city in an effort to revitalize and record the history of the downtown area [of Elba]," said Elba Lodge Worshipful Master Ed Kelley. "It also marks a renewed commitment from our lodge to the community as a charitable organization."

Masons from across the state visited Elba on Saturday for this event, and they participated in the ceremonies including a 'Parade of Masons' from the Coffee County Courthouse to the educational building of Elba United Methodist Church where a dedication program was held prior to the unveiling of the new historical marker.

The marker is located at the corner of Davis Street and Claxton Avenue in downtown Elba [across the street from the Elba United Methodist Church].

Elba Mayor Tom Maddox accepted the gift on behalf of the city from the Elba Masons.

See MASONS, Page 2

The text of the historical marker reads as follows: *150 yards south of this site, John B. Simmons built the first Masonic Hall in Coffee County. On December 17, 1851, the Grand Lodge of Alabama issued a dispensation to nine Coffee County men to form a lodge in the town of Bentonville to be known as Elba Lodge #170. At the first meeting held on Friday, February 13, 1852, a committee was appointed to obtain property for the use of the lodge. The hall was a two-story building used for Masonic business. The first person to become a Master Mason in Elba Lodge #170 was William*



Brothers of the Masonic Lodge gathered Saturday, Feb. 13, in Elba for a dedication ceremony of an Alabama Historical Marker for the Elba Masonic Lodge #170. The Masons participated in a walking parade from the Coffee County Courthouse in downtown Elba to the dedication site (at the corner of Davis Street and Claxton Avenue). The Elba Masons gifted the marker to the City of Elba.



Tommy Morrow (left) and Ed Kelley (right), both masons of the Elba Masonic Lodge #170, unveiled the new historical marker in downtown Elba last Saturday afternoon. Morrow is serving as Grand Master for Alabama Masons this year. Kelley is the Worshipful Master for the Elba Lodge.

Coffee County Schools super says administration working diligently to get COVID-19 vaccine for employees wanting it

In a weekly report released Wednesday, Feb. 10, by Coffee County Schools superintendent Kevin Killingsworth, new COVID-19 cases remained steady for the schools in his system.

The superintendent said the school system had 14 new cases of COVID-19 to report in last week's report, but that total remained steady from the week prior.

The Feb. 10th report reflected six new student cases at Zion Chapel, one new faculty case and one new student case at New Brockton Elementary, four new student cases at New Brockton High, and two new student cases at Kinston.

"This brings our total cases since August 10th to 187 statewide," Killingsworth said. "Numbers of those quarantined are also on the

continues to work diligently to secure vaccines for its employees, but the process to obtain the vaccine is frustrating at best.

"We do have those trying desperately to assist us in getting enough vaccines, and I truly appreciate their assistance," Killingsworth said. "James Brown, Coffee County EMA Director, Matt Rodgers from ESCC, and Dr. Beverly Jordan have been persistent in their efforts."

Pre-Registration still underway for Elba City Schools' Pre-K program

Elba City Schools encourages those interested in having their child be a part of the First Class Pre-K program at the school for the 2021-2022 school year to pre-register now!

This is Alabama's voluntary Pre-K program, and the Pre-Registration will continue online until March 26<sup>th</sup>. To complete the form, parents should visit the

See PRE-K, Page 4

## Robert Liljeberg, Orthopedic Surgeon and Mako SmartRobotics

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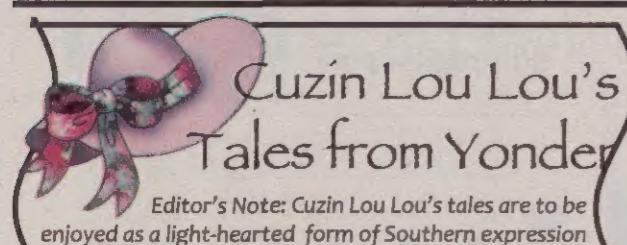


### NOTICE:

The joint workshop that had been scheduled for Tuesday night, Feb. 16, for the Elba City Council and Elba Water & Electric Board was cancelled. The workshop will be rescheduled for a later date.

The next regular meeting for both the Elba City Council and Elba Water & Electric Board will be Monday evening, Feb. 22, beginning at 5:30 p.m. at city hall.

## EDITORIAL



Editor's Note: Cuzin Lou Lou's tales are to be enjoyed as a light-hearted form of Southern expression

Lou Lou went on a shopping adventure with Papa last weekend. He wanted to go visit some of his more favorite browsing spots.

Sister opted to stay home for this trip. She and Papa have completely different shopping styles, and she decided extra time in bed on a Saturday morning would best for her. However, she got her own shopping in later in the day!

The Papa-Lou Lou adventure began with a stop at an always-favorite breakfast diner. This was a pretty clear-cut stop with both getting two eggs scrambled, bacon, toast and hash browns for their morning fuel. Turns out, though, that Papa was a bit confused over Lou Lou's conversation with the waitress regarding jelly for the toast.

Lou Lou is a big fan of mixed fruit jelly, which is difficult to find, but this diner offers it as an option. The waitress asked if Lou Lou and Papa had a "fav" for their jelly, and Lou Lou immediately requested mixed fruit. Papa didn't respond so he got mixed fruit too, per Lou Lou's request.

Turns out that Papa didn't realize the conversation was about jelly – thus his confused look when Lou Lou spoke up for him. He must've been giving the waitress his "hear what he wants to hear" ears when she asked about the jelly.

Lou Lou figured out this after the food was delivered to the table, and Papa started questioned where that mixed fruit was that she and the waitress had discussed. Lou Lou had to explain that the mixed fruit was the jelly in front of him that he was spreading on his toast!

Until next time...God Bless and Keep Smiling!

Share Your  
Views...  
Write a Letter  
to  
the Editor

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES  
Coffee County & Surrounding Counties - \$21 per year  
6 Months - \$11, including city & state tax  
Alabama Counties - \$24 per year - including tax  
6 months - \$13  
Outside Alabama - \$27 per year - 6 months - \$15

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Masons and others gathered Saturday afternoon, Feb. 13, in Elba for the unveiling of an Alabama Historical Marker for the Elba Masonic Lodge #170 listen as Alabama Grand Master Tommy Morrow - who also is a member of the Elba Lodge - speaks. The Elba Lodge gifted this marker to the City of Elba.

## MASONS

Continued from  
Page ONE

George Washington Harper on April 24, 1852. Elba's first public school used the lower floor beginning in 1855. Thirteen members were present for the election and installation of officers on Friday February 13, 1852. Those elected were:

William W. Simmons, Worshipful Master  
Alfred McGee, Senior Warden  
James Claxton, Secretary  
John Harper, Treasurer  
Paul Smith, Senior Deacon  
Pierre Darcy Costello, Junior Deacon  
Micajah Harper, Senior Steward  
Irwin Rogers, Junior Steward  
William J. Spurlin, Tiler.

Charter members in addition to those elected were James D. McLean, James M. Tullis, and John B. Simmons.

### A Message from Elba Mayor Tom Maddox regarding the Elba Masonic Lodge historical marker...

Thanks to Elba Masonic Lodge #170 for presenting a new historic marker to the City of Elba and thanks to the Masons, past and present for their contributions to the history of our city. Thanks to Ed Kelley for his efforts to make the marker a reality and for his organizing the event for its unveiling.

We can also be proud of Tommy Morrow who is the Grand Master for the State of Alabama. He travels all over the state visiting different Masonic lodges and is always promoting Elba wherever he goes.

Masons from as far away as the Haleyville area in northwest Alabama were present for the impressive ceremony.

This makes a total of five historic markers for our downtown.



This Alabama Historical Marker was unveiled Saturday, Feb. 13, in downtown Elba during a ceremony hosted by the Elba Masonic Lodge #170. According to Elba Mayor Tom Maddox this is now the fifth historical marker in Elba.

## Mass COVID-19 vaccination clinics succeed in immunizing eligible people across state

Mass vaccination clinics operated last week by selected hospitals in each of the eight public health districts throughout the state reached large numbers of persons eligible for COVID-19 vaccine.

The success of these clinics was a direct result of ongoing collaboration by a number of community partners including county emergency management agencies, public officials and the Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH).

Through the efforts of many hardworking volunteers and healthcare providers, at least 105,000 to 110,000 doses of COVID-19 vaccine per week were administered in Alabama over the past three weeks. All the vaccine the state receives, both first and second doses, is being administered. Second doses for those vaccinated in last week's clinics were given through the same process beginning 21 or 28 days from administration of the first doses, depending on

the vaccine. The Alabama Hospital Association provided these totals of vaccines given last week:

**Anniston** Northeast Alabama Regional Medical Center - 5,000

**Birmingham** University of Alabama at Birmingham Hospital - 12,139

**Dothan** Southeast Health - 6,100

**Huntsville** Huntsville Hospital - 12,000

**Mobile** University of South Alabama Hospital - 8,300

(This clinic continued through Saturday.) Providence Hospital - 3,200

Mobile Infirmary - 3,325

Springhill Memorial Hospital - 7,500

**Montgomery** Baptist Medical Center - 8,000

**Seattle** Vaughan Regional Medical Center - 5,000

**Tuscaloosa** DCH Regional Medical Center - 5,889

## Elba Police Report

The Elba Police Department, between Tuesday, Feb. 9, 2021, and Monday, Feb. 15, 2021, conducted the following activity:

**Tuesday, Feb. 9** - Elba Police rendered a citizen assist on Davis St E (9:57 a.m.); Elba Police rendered a citizen assist on Taylor Mill Rd (10:06 a.m.); Traffic accident reported at 632 Claxton Ave N (3:33 p.m.); Suspicious person reported at 816 Putnam St (7:02 p.m.); Suspicious vehicle reported at Claxton Ave and Putnam St (9:54 p.m.); Animal complaint reported on Troy Hwy (10:43 p.m.). There were two traffic stops recorded on this date resulting in one written warning and one verbal warning.

**Wednesday, Feb. 10** - Trespassing reported at 2050 Taylor Mill Rd (12:53 p.m.); Elba Police rendered a citizen assist on Simmons St (2:47 p.m.); Domestic complaint reported at 1584 Caroline St (5:51 p.m.); Elba Police rendered a citizen assist at 1584 Caroline St (9:17 p.m.). There was one traffic stop on this date with a written warning and two verbal warnings.

**Thursday, Feb. 11** - Traffic accident reported at Hwy 87 and East Davis St (12:46 a.m.); Suspicious person reported at 595 Collier Circle (9:40 a.m.); Criminal mischief reported at 316 Simmons St (10:16 a.m.); Domestic complaint reported on Claxton Ave N (4:26 p.m.); Suspicious person reported at 221 E Davis St (9:15 p.m.); Theft of property reported at 661 E Davis St (10:17 p.m.). There was one traffic stop on this date resulting in a written warning issued.

**Friday, Feb. 12** - Traffic accident reported at 1337 County Rd 409 - an arrest was made (12:31 a.m.); Elba Police rendered a citizen assist on E Davis St (7:51 a.m.); Suspicious circumstances reported at 221 E Davis St (10:55 a.m.); Suspicious circumstances reported on Hwy 87 (12:06 p.m.); Animal complaint reported at 2613 Hickman Ave (2:19 p.m.); Animal complaint reported at 1153 Elm Ave (9:09 p.m.). There were six traffic stops recorded on this date resulting in four written warnings, one arrest, and one unfounded disposition.

**Monday, Feb. 15** - Animal complaint at 2613 Hickman Ave (9:40 a.m.).

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## Prescribed fire planned at Frank Jackson State Park in Opp, Ala.

Prescribed burns are planned at Frank Jackson State Park near Opp, Alabama, during February and March 2021, weather permitting. The burns are being conducted to reduce the risk of wildfire and enhance wildlife habitat within the park.

Every effort will be made to ensure safety and proper smoke management during the burns. As a safety precaution, the park's hiking trails will be closed during the burn periods. Additionally, campers might experience smoke in the campground.

The Alabama Forestry Commission will conduct the controlled burns for the Alabama State Parks Division. The City of Opp Fire Department has been notified.

### Start planning now for Spring gardens

While experiencing the cold winter weather, one of the many things people look forward to are the luscious spring gardens. It is never too early to start planning.

Now is the time for gardeners to begin preparing their gardens for the spring growing season.

#### Getting Started

Before taking any steps toward growing a spring garden, it is essential to first remove all the plants and weeds from the previous season. Starting from a clean slate will give the garden a clean, organized appearance, as well as healthy, fresh soil.

The most important step when beginning to prep a garden is to conduct a soil test. Based on the results of the soil test, gardeners may have to add nutrients to adjust the pH of the soil in order for it to best suit the plants. Soil that is overly acidic may be harmful to some plants. It is important to keep a constant eye on soil pH levels to ensure they remain within the 6 to 7 range.

"You might want to plant a cover crop if you have poor soil," said Rhonda Britton, an Alabama Cooperative Extension System home grounds, gardens and home pests regional agent. "This will help build up organic matter in the soil."

Also, it is important to determine whether the proposed garden plot receives at least six hours of full sunlight. Without the adequate amount of sunlight, the plants would not be able to thrive.

#### Plan Out the Garden

To have a successful spring garden, Britton suggests keeping a notebook for gardeners to plan what they are going to plant. In the same notebook, people can plan the potential layout, dates and times for planting. Getting ahead and staying on top of a gardening routine will ensure a successful, flourishing garden.

Britton said at the beginning of the planning process, it is important for people to decide whether they want to buy transplants or plant their own seeds inside, starting in the winter.

"Some plants, such as squash, cucumber, corn and beans, do better with direct seeding," Britton said. "Plants that do better as transplants are tomatoes and peppers."

**Attend the Church of Your Choice This and Every Sunday!**

*If you would like a free funeral decisions guide, please email me at hayesfh@hayesfuneralhome.net*

431 East Davis Elba, Alabama 36323 (334) 897-2225

# Obituaries

Death notices updated regularly on our website at [www.elba-clipper.com](http://www.elba-clipper.com)

#### RAY LAMAR DAVIS

Mr. Ray Lamar Davis, age 59, a resident of Elba, Ala., died unexpectedly Friday, Feb. 12, 2021, at his residence.



Graveside services were held Feb. 13, 2021 from the Goodman Baptist Church Cemetery with Rev. John Woodham officiating. Burial services will follow with Hayes Funeral Home directing.

He was preceded in death by brothers, Larry Davis and James Terry Davis.

Survivors include his wife: Hilda Davis; son: Dylan (Samantha Morris) Davis; and step-daughters:

Tonitta (Tyson) Sauls, Libby Woodham, and Sandra Woodham; brothers: Jerry Davis, and Gary (Darla) Davis; sisters: Fay Lawson, and Cindy Odom; and sister-in-law: Kay Davis.

#### RICHARD GLEN BEDSOLE

Mr. Richard Glen Bedsole, age 60, of Eufaula, Ala., died Friday, Feb. 5, 2021, at Troy Regional Medical Center.

Memorial services will be held Saturday, Feb. 20, at 3 p.m., at the Chapman Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. Caleb Galloway officiating and Chapman Funeral Home directing.

Born January 8, 1961 in Samson, Ala., Mr. Bedsole was the son of the late Charlie Glen and Evelyn Jeanette Creech Bedsole.

Survivors include his wife of 30 years: Sonya Bedsole, Eufaula; two daughters: Jessica (Richard) Praeger, Eufaula, and Elizabeth (Bryan) Bosse, Suwannee, Ga.; one granddaughter: Harper Lee Anne Bosse; one brother: Donald Ray Bedsole, Zion Chapel, Ala.; two sisters: Glenda (David) Messick, Goshen, Ala., and Brenda (Kenny) Senn, Zion Chapel; mother and father-in-law: Donald (Catherine) Hudson.

Preceding him in death was one sister, Airmedia (Blondie) GrandBerry.

Survivors include his mother: Olean (Elias) Barry; daughter: Selena (Jerome) Mittier, Enterprise; brother: Roosevelt Chambers Jr., Richmond Hill, Ga.; sisters: Charlene Barry, Angela M. Barry (Calera), Laura Bryant, all of Enterprise; aunts: Erma J. Dawson, Ohio, Essie Mae Purvis, Sarasota Fla.; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

JOHN BASS

Mr. John Bass, age 54, of Enterprise, Ala., died Wednesday, Feb. 3, 2021.

Graveside services were held Saturday, Feb. 13, 2021, at Pea River Missionary

Baptist Church Cemetery with Coleman Funeral Home of Enterprise directing.

John was born April 19, 1967 to John W. Cole and the late Linda M. Bass in Enterprise. At an early age John moved to Ohio and then returned back to Alabama in 2019.

He was preceded in death by his mother, one daughter, Taelor Suman (Jade Suman), his maternal grandparents, John Bass and Mattie Bass, his paternal grandparents, Sam and Luther Cole, and a special aunt, (Tiny) Bass.

In accordance with her wishes, a private burial will

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**Grief Without Guilt: It's Not Your Fault**

Grief carries with it a multitude of conflicting emotions - and one of the most overpowering is the feeling of guilt. Those who have lost a loved one often find themselves struggling with the idea their loss is somehow their own fault - that there's something they could have said or done to prevent their loved one from dying.

Sometimes, feelings of grief can be situated in something real. All of us make mistakes, and we can say or do things that hurt the people we love. The feelings of guilt you experience during the mourning process may stem from a memory of mistakes you made in the past.

Just as often, though, feelings of guilt are less rational. As you grieve, you may talk yourself into the notion that you could have been there for your loved one or could have helped them receive a different kind of medical care.

The bottom line is that guilt and grief go hand in hand - but what can you do about it? The first step is simply acknowledging the way you feel; guilt is an emotion, and the best way to handle any emotion is to first validate it.

Consider what your guilt is really about. Reflect on the idea that we all crave order, and your guilt may simply be a subconscious way to make some sense of your loved one's death. Find someone you can talk to about your feelings of guilt; this may be a close friend or it may be a therapist. As you think, talk, and process, work your way toward a place of self-forgiveness.

If your guilt is irrational, you will hopefully have people in your life who will tell you so, encouraging you to move on. And if it's based in something real, you can seek a place where you either make amends or discover a new perspective - learning and growing from your painful experience.

*If you would like a free funeral decisions guide, please email me at hayesfh@hayesfuneralhome.net*

431 East Davis Elba, Alabama 36323 (334) 897-2225

Survivors include his father: John W. Cole (Adris), Enterprise; one special aunt: Deloris Wallace of Virginia; four sisters: Linda Washington (Byron), Enterprise, L'Chelle Bass, New York City, NY, Alexia Blanks, Daleville, Ala., and Devon Cole, Enterprise; two nieces: Chyana and Kiara Blanks, both of Daleville, three nephews: Neal Pouncey, Kenya Pouncey, and Cruise Caldwell, all of Enterprise; one brother-in-law: Byron Washington, Enterprise; and one special friend, Tammy Lawson.

**MARTHA B. FLEMING**

Mrs. Martha B. Fleming, age 76, of Brundidge, Ala., died Tuesday, Feb. 9, 2021, at her residence.

She was born Sept. 11, 1944 in Banks, Ala., to the late James Bruce Brantley and Lois Harris Brantley. She had a Master's degree and taught elementary school prior to becoming a librarian at Elba, Kinston and Pike County.

Graveside services were held Feb. 12, 2021 at Banks Cemetery with Rev. David Kirby officiating. Burial followed with Skeen Funeral Home of Troy directing.

In addition to her parents, Martha was also preceded in death by her brother, John William Brantley.

Survivors her husband: Robert Fleming, Brundidge; children: William Christian Fleming, Josie, Benjamin Fleming, Banks, and Calista Grieshop (Trigg), Cartersville, Ga.; grandchildren: Madison Fleming, Mobile, Savannah Fleming, Troy, Samuel Fleming, Luverne, Shaelin Fleming, Banks, Brooks Grieshop and Emma Grieshop, both of Cartersville; and her pet cat, Little Baby.

Survivors include his son: Vester Lee Frazier, Pelham, Ala.; sister: Mary Frazier Dixon, Dothan, Ala.; step-daughters: Shannon T. Wilder, Phenix City, Ala., Phyllis (James) Leverette, Enterprise, and Teresa

Graveside services were held Feb. 13, 2021 from the Pleasant Grove Missionary Baptist Church Cemetery, Enterprise, with Coleman Funeral Home of Enterprise directing.

Survivors her husband: Robert Fleming, Brundidge; children: William Christian Fleming, Josie, Benjamin Fleming, Banks, and Calista Grieshop (Trigg), Cartersville, Ga.; grandchildren: Madison Fleming, Mobile, Savannah Fleming, Troy, Samuel Fleming, Luverne, Shaelin Fleming, Banks, Brooks Grieshop and Emma Grieshop, both of Cartersville; and her pet cat, Little Baby.

He was born on April 8, 1954 in Enterprise to late Roosevelt Chambers and Olean Purvis Barry. Herbert was a resident of the Elba Health and Rehabilitation, but his heart and mind was never too far from his home and his years in the Enterprise City Schools.

Preceding him in death was one sister, Airmedia (Blondie) GrandBerry.

Survivors include his mother: Olean (Elias) Barry; daughter: Selena (Jerome) Mittier, Enterprise; brother: Roosevelt Chambers Jr., Richmond Hill, Ga.; sisters: Charlene Barry, Angela M. Barry (Calera), Laura Bryant, all of Enterprise; aunts: Erma J. Dawson, Ohio, Essie Mae Purvis, Sarasota Fla.; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Sylvanus and Ethel Terry Frazier; wife, Mary Sue Frazier; sisters, Annette Frazier Pearson and Louesta Frazier Byrd.

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# CHURCH and COMMUNITY

## PASTOR'S CORNER

by Dwight Johnson, Lead Pastor

Elba First Assembly of God • 1320 Highland Drive

My wife was very proud of me last week. I was able to take some salvaged wood from a very old house that was torn down, and after lots of measuring, cutting, sanding, and finishing, give her a "new" TV table. But, the thanks should really go to Mr. Leverette.

I don't even remember Mr. Leverette's first name. He was my ninth grade Shop Class (it might have been called Vocational Education) teacher. We spent a few weeks on welding, a few on brick laying, a few on agriculture, etc. But, the unit that really stood out to me was carpentry.

Mr. Leverette introduced the class to some basic tools, and guided us as we all built a simple gun rack. I'd like to say that carpentry became a lifelong hobby, but instead, it was more of an interest. Only in recent years have I had the opportunity to develop my interest. But, the seed was planted long ago by Mr. Leverette.

The Bible has much to say about sowing and reaping; planting and harvest. There are far more scriptures than can be explored here, but I urge you to study this subject. Let me say this, however: Continue to plant your seed. Invest in someone's life; work toward your dream. Delayed results can be disappointing.

We might feel that our labor was in vain. But, the seed hasn't died. In time, it will germinate, and harvest will come.

Thanks, Mr. Leverette.

\*\* Pastor Dwight Johnson of Elba First Assembly of God has been the Pastor's Corner author each week for the month of February. In March, the articles will come from Pastor Jon Isaacs of Grace Fellowship Church.

## PRE-K

(Continued from Page One)

enrollment, the child's immunization record must be provided.

Acceptance is strictly through random drawing to be held March 26 at Elba Elementary School at 9 a.m. The parent/guardian does not have to be present at the drawing.

Notices will be emailed beginning April 16th.

For more information, visit [www.children.alabama.gov](http://www.children.alabama.gov) and see Pre-Registration Info under First Class Pre-K.

For assistance with accessing the online application, contact Kenya Martin at Elba Elementary School.

No child will be denied participation on basis of income, sex, race, color, national origin, or disability.

For the 2020-2021 school year, Elba Elementary School has operated two Pre-K classes, and they

hope to keep both classes going in the future! Pre-register your child today to hopefully be a part of Elba's program.

### LBWCC hires Duffy as director of institutional advancement

LBW Community College has announced the hiring of Ms. Chrissie Duffy for the position of Director of Institutional Advancement, a division of the College responsible for further public understanding and recognition of the goals and missions of the institution, foundation relations, and fundraising efforts.

"Ms. Duffy brings a comprehensive set of skills fine-tuned to the LBW service area," said LBW President, Dr. Brock Kelley.

Duffy most recently served as the Andalusia Area Chamber of Commerce Executive Director, where she spent the past eight years managing an extensive membership network and crafting initiatives with government and industry partners to benefit the business community.

One of Duffy's highly-recognized achievements is the creation of the Christmas in Candyland project that brought in thousands of visitors annually and achieved record sales tax revenue. Also

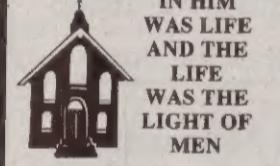
during her chamber career, she increased membership by 41 percent with a collective investment in community events of over 200 percent.

"I look forward to creating impactful advancement initiatives with lasting influence on both the College and community," Duffy said.

Duffy began her new role at the College on February 9, 2021.

**Elba Lions Club**  
annual Pancake Breakfast  
Saturday, March 6,  
6 - 10 a.m. [\$5 per plate]  
National Security  
Conference Center  
Takeout Plates Only!

## Church Directory



### COVENANT COMMUNITY CHURCH

Diana White, Pastor  
Bible Study . . . 9:00 a.m.  
Fellowship . . . 9:45 a.m.  
Worship . . . 10:00 a.m.  
Wed. Night (Youth Real Deal and Children's Activities) . . . 6:00 p.m.

### DAMASCUS BAPTIST CHURCH

Steve Watson, Pastor  
Sunday School . . . 9:45 a.m.  
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.  
Even. Worship . . . 6:00 p.m.  
Wed. Prayer Service 7:00 p.m.

### DORCAS BAPTIST CHURCH

Dale Morgan, Pastor  
Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.  
Discipleship Training . . . 5:00 p.m.  
Even. Worship . . . 6:00 p.m.  
Wed. Prayer Meet . . . 7:00 p.m.

### 1ST ASSEMBLY OF GOD - KINGSTON

Danny Bradshaw, Pastor  
Sunday School . . . 9:45 a.m.  
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.  
Wed. Bible Study . . . 6:15 p.m.

### FRIENDSHIP BAPTIST COMMUNITY CHURCH

Phillip Adcock, Pastor  
Sunday Morning . . . 10:30 a.m.  
Sunday Evening . . . 5:00 p.m.  
Wed. Prayer Service 7:00 p.m.

### ELBA CHURCH OF GOD OF PROPHECY

H.B. Buckner, Pastor  
Sunday School . . . 9:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship . . . 10:00 a.m.  
Disciple Train . . . 5:30 p.m.  
Even. Worship . . . 6:30 p.m.

### ELBA CHURCH OF GOD

David Noble, Pastor  
Morn. Worship . . . 10:45 a.m.  
Even. Worship . . . 5:00 p.m.  
Wed. Bible Study . . . 6:30 p.m.

### ELBA CHURCH OF HOLINESS

Edward E. Drake, Pastor  
Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.  
Even. Service . . . 6:00 p.m.  
Thurs. Service . . . 6:00 p.m.

### ELBA CHURCH OF LOVE

Charles J. Parker, Pastor  
Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.  
Sat. Service . . . 6:00 p.m.  
Sun. Service . . . 10:00 a.m.  
Sunday Evening . . . 6:00 p.m.  
Wed. Service . . . 7:00 p.m.

### ELBA CHURCH OF NEW ZION

Dwight Johnson, Pastor  
Sunday School . . . 9:45 a.m.  
Morn. Worship . . . 10:30 a.m.  
Even. Service . . . 6:00 p.m.  
Wed. Service . . . 6:30 p.m.

### ELBA 1st ASSEMBLY OF GOD

Jerome Turner, Sr., Pastor  
Sunday School . . . 9:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.  
Even. Service . . . 6:00 p.m.  
Wed. Service . . . 7:00 p.m.

### ELBA FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Tom Anderson, Int. Pastor  
Sunday School . . . 9:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship . . . 10:00 a.m.  
Even. Service . . . 5:00 p.m.  
Wed. Service . . . 6:30 p.m.

### ELBA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Rev. Steve Reneau, Pastor  
Morn. Worship . . . 8:45 a.m.  
HAW HILL ASSEMBLY OF GOD

Shirley Ellis, Pastor  
Sunday School . . . 9:45 a.m.  
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.  
Even. Services . . . 6:00 p.m.  
Wed. Bible Study . . . 6:00 p.m.

### ELBA ZION BAPTIST CHURCH

Lovell Martin, Pastor  
Sunday School . . . 9:45 a.m.  
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.  
Even. Service . . . 6:30 p.m.  
Wed. Even. Meeting 7:00 p.m.

### HEBRON BAPT. CHURCH

Mark Cooper, Pastor  
Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.  
Even. Service . . . 5:00 p.m.  
Wed. Even. Meeting 7:00 p.m.

### NEW VERNON ASSEMBLY OF GOD

Lorraine Flowers, Minister  
Sunday School . . . 9:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.  
Even. Service . . . 6:00 p.m.  
Wed. Prayer Service 6:30 p.m.

### NEW PHILADELPHIA CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST

Lorraine Flowers, Minister  
Sunday School . . . 9:45 a.m.  
Morn. Worship . . . 11:30 a.m.  
Even. Service . . . 6:00 p.m.  
Tuesday Bible Class 7:00 p.m.

### THE WAY OF HOLINESS CHURCH

Elba Max Reed, Minister  
Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship . . . 11:30 a.m.  
Even. Service . . . 6:00 p.m.  
Tuesday Bible Class 7:00 p.m.

### New Glorious COGIC plans to hold Clothes Closet event on Feb. 27th

New Glorious COGIC Outreach Ministries invites citizens to join them at a free Clothes Closet event Saturday, Feb. 27, from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m.

All clothes will be given

### Coffee County Soil and Water Conservation District accepting scholarship applications

The Coffee County Soil and Water Conservation District is accepting applications for a \$500 scholarship sponsored by the Alabama Conservation District Employees Association.

Applicant must be a U.S. citizen, high school senior, and living in the State of Alabama. Applications may be picked up at the

### Round and About With Eria's Daughter

897-3611

Scripture: The Glory of God in Zion [Psalm 48: 1-14]

### Thinking of You! Praying for You.

Family of the late Lucius Lane, Dea. James Williams, Maria A. Kelley-Duncan, All Hospital Patients, Georgia Nelson, Mary Sue Dawson, Faye Manning, Emily Newsom, Pastor

New Glorious COGIC is located at 314 County Road 263, Elba.

District office located 1055 E McKinnon Street, New Brockton, AL 36351.

Deadline to receive completed applications in the District office is March 5, 2021. For more information, contact Dorris Skipper at 334-894-5581X3, [coffee@conservationdistricts.org](mailto:coffee@conservationdistricts.org)

To ensure social distancing, space is limited, and participants will register in 30 minute blocks (between 1 p.m. and 5 p.m.) of 20 people in each block. Visit [www.landmarkparkdothan.com](http://www.landmarkparkdothan.com) to register.

The exhibit, Pattern and Void, will be on display at the Wiregrass Museum of Art from Jan. 22-June 26.

A Beginning Beekeepers Course also will be Feb. 27th at Landmark Park at 10 a.m. Attending the auditorium session is free.

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To ensure social

## LIFESTYLES

*Keeping a Promise to Mom*

**FIVE DAUGHTERS KEEP PROMISE TO THEIR MOTHER...** The daughter of Welcom and Lena Farris made a promise to their mother that they would keep in touch by 'getting together' with one another. Their dad, Welcom, died in 1978, and their mom, Lena, died in 2004. The family lived on a farm 15 miles south of Elba. The sisters are Jo Pugh, Sarah Williamson, Mary Heiss, Roseland Knowles, and Johnnie Sue Stewart. They also had two brothers – one died in a car accident and the other was stillborn. Holding true to their promise to their mom, the sisters began gathering in 2006 at Jo's home, and they spend a week together each summer. Among their many activities each year during the week-long gathering is a visit to family cemeteries at Bethlehem Church in Elba and Pine Level. Above, the sisters are shown posing for a photo taken this past July (2020) in front of the church they grew up in – Bethlehem Primitive Baptist Church near Elba. Standing left to right: Jo Pugh, Sarah Williamson, Mary Heiss, Roseland Knowles, and Johnnie Stewart.



Coffee County EMA Director James Brown spoke with Elba Rotary Club members at the Tuesday, Feb. 9, meeting. He shared an update on COVID-19 cases in the state, along with vaccination plans in our local area. Brown (at left) is pictured with Club President Ken Wilson.

**Coffee County Extension office to host RUP applicator training and testing on Friday, Feb. 26, in New Brockton**

The Coffee County Extension office will be holding its yearly Restricted Use Pesticide (RUP) private applicator training and testing Friday, Feb. 26, beginning at 9 a.m. at the Coffee County Extension office in New Brockton.

The RUP license is for anyone who wishes to purchase restricted use pesticides for use on land they personally own or rent, not for commercial applications. RUP licenses are valid for 3 years and must be renewed by testing every 3 years.

The cost of the RUP training and testing is \$20. The license fee is \$25 and paid to the Alabama Department of Agriculture and Industries. Anyone who would like to attend the training and testing should register by calling the Coffee County Extension office at 334-894-5596.

**Spring enrollment strong at Enterprise State Community College**

Enterprise State Community College saw another increase for the spring semester thanks to the College's adapted communication efforts with students and student support services.

Dean of Students Kassie Mathis attributed this success to the College "consistently making the necessary accommodations to retain our current students and to provide our new students with what they need to be successful."

These accommodations, according to Mathis, included the continuation of virtual advising, the growth of the College's laptop loaner program and the increase in virtual and over-the-phone communication to students. One example of this communication effort was the over 500 calls made by recruiters prior to the start of the spring semester.

"Our recruiters set a goal to contact 300 students in three days," Mathis said. "They more than exceeded that goal by making 572 texts, calls, and emails and actually speaking with 279 prospective students. This type of dedication to the success of students is what sets us apart and allows us to see continued success during such a difficult time."

Much like the Fall 2020 semester at ESCC, students had more virtual and hybrid class offerings during the spring semester; however, some additional on-campus class options were available. At the Alabama Aviation College, a unit of Enterprise State, students are continuing to follow staggered schedules and a modified block system.

Whether students are

"We recognized that many people are still going through difficult times, so we all stepped up to make sure we did everything we could to remove obstacles preventing anyone from continuing their education or training," Rodgers said. "We also adapted our methods of communication and took additional steps to meet our students' needs before the start of the semester, like having additional hours to assist students with registration prior to the start of classes."

"Our success depends on our students' success, and I am thankful for the great team we have here. Every

**Senior citizens can apply online for Seniors Farmers Market Nutrition Program vouchers**

The Seniors Farmers Market Nutrition Program provides eligible senior citizens with fresh fruits and vegetables from certified farmers markets in the State of Alabama.

Eligibility for vouchers [worth \$30 each] includes:

- Age – must be 60 years of age or older on the day of application; and

• Income – applicants' gross household income must not exceed these limits [household of one: \$1,756 monthly; household of two:

\$2,371 monthly; household of three: \$2,987 monthly; household of four: \$3,604 monthly; household of five: \$4,219 monthly; household of six: \$4,835 monthly]

Applicants must apply online at <http://fma.alabama.gov>. Elba Senior Citizens director Donna Falls can help local seniors fill out the application online. For her assistance, call (334) 897-3019.

No applications can be accepted over the telephone or by mail.

**Kayla Feliciano completes Peace Corps Prep**

Kayla Feliciano, of New Brockton, Ala., recently completed the Peace Corps Prep program at Troy University.

Students in the program must complete 18 hours of academic credit, professional development, and 50 service hours through Troy's Civic Engagement program. Upon completion of the program, the students receive a certificate from the Peace Corps as well as a competitive edge when applying for Peace Corps service.



**Call Today for a Quote!!**  
(334) 897-2981

**The Grantham Agency**

603 N. Claxton Ave., Elba, AL

**Serving ALL Your Insurance Needs**

- Home
- Auto
- Mobile Home
- Motorcycle
- Business
- Life
- RV
- Boat

**Public Notices (additional notices on Page 6):**

**ELBA Housing Authority**

INTERESTED PARTIES ARE INVITED TO A  
**PUBLIC HEARING**  
TO REVIEW AND OFFER COMMENTS  
ON THE ELBA HOUSING AUTHORITY'S  
**2021 CAPITAL FUND PROGRAM**

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7, 2021

2:00 P.M.

ELBA HOUSING AUTHORITY OFFICE  
1207 NORTH CLAXTON AVENUE  
ELBA, ALABAMA

**COVID-19 Prevent the spread**

**Wash up. Back up. Mask up.**  
stay  
6 feet  
apart

**NEW BROCKTON HOUSING AUTHORITY**

INTERESTED PARTIES ARE INVITED TO A  
**PUBLIC HEARING**  
TO REVIEW AND OFFER COMMENTS  
ON THE NEW BROCKTON HOUSING AUTHORITY'S  
**2021 CAPITAL FUND PROGRAM**

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7, 2021

9:00 A.M.

NEW BROCKTON HOUSING AUTHORITY OFFICE  
329 KING STREET  
NEW BROCKTON, ALABAMA



Related information is available  
at the Elba Housing Authority  
office prior to the Public Hearing  
for review and inspection.



Related information is available  
at the Elba Housing Authority  
office prior to the Public Hearing  
for review and inspection.

## CLASSIFIEDS

## The Elba Clipper

P.O. Box 677 Elba, AL 36323

## TO PLACE AN AD

CALL 334-897-2823  
FAX 334-897-3434

e-mail clipper@troycable.net

## DEADLINE

The deadline for placing a classified or other advertisement is noon on Tuesday of the week in which the ad is to appear. We reserve the right to edit

## COST

Only \$500 per week (first 15 words)

\* Additional words 20¢ each

Prepaid personal

## SERVICES

For all your Lawn Mower Repair Needs CALL . . . .  
RANDY SMALL MOTORS  
5491 County Rd. 410  
334 897-5168

CCS CONSTRUCTION: R.J. LOTT 334-224-1004.

HANDY MAN SERVICES: All types

carpentry, electrical and plumbing repairs. Additions, decks renovations. No job too small. Affordable rates and prompt service. Senior citizen discount.

BAKERS TREE SERVICE AND STUMP REMOVAL. 25 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE FREE Estimates. Call 897-2271 after 6:00 p.m. t/c

ADVERTISE STATEWIDE or by Region in over 100 Newspapers, reaching over 1 million readers each week! Run your ad in our Classified Network for just \$210 per week! Make one call to this newspaper (participating Alaskan newspaper) or call 1-800-264-7043 to find out how easy it is to advertise statewide!

ARE YOU BEHIND \$10K OR MORE ON YOUR TAXES? Stop wage &amp; bank levies, liens &amp; audits, unfiled tax returns, payroll issues, &amp; resolve tax debt FAST. Call 833-404-0840 (Hours: Mon-Fri 7am-5pm PST).

## PETS

FROZEN RAW BEEF In Bulk For Your Pets. \$1.50/Pound. Call Mike, 334-414-7297.

## INSTRUCTION

COMPUTER &amp; IT Training Program! Train online to get the skills to become a Computer &amp; Help Desk Professional! Now offering a \$10,000 Scholarship for qualified applicants. Call CTI for details! 1-844-218-4255 (M-F 7am-5pm).

## HEALTH/ BEAUTY

ATTENTION DIABETICS! Save money on your diabetic supplies! Convenient home shipping for monitors, test strips, insulin pumps, catheters and more! To learn more call now 1-855-504-9031

OXYGEN - ANYTIME Anywhere. No tanks to refill. No deliveries. The All-New Inogen One G4 is only 2.8 pounds! FAA approved! FREE info kit: 1-844-322-9935

## FINANCIAL SERVICES

DRIVE OUT Breast Cancer. Donate a car or boat today! Receive maximum value of write off for your taxes. Running or not! All conditions accepted. Free pickup. Call for details. 1-855-428-9330.

The City of Elba is now accepting applications for the position of Machine Operator

Opening Date: Immediately  
Closing Date: February 19, 2021

## Job Summary:

- Operates light, medium and heavy equipment.
- Operates jack hammer.
- Performs manual labor in accomplishing assigned work.
- Utilizes hand and power saws, axes and sling blades at work site.

Please apply at [www.coffeecounty.us](http://www.coffeecounty.us).  
Coffee County is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

## Job Requirements:

- Working knowledge of the practices applied in use, care and safe operation of various types of equipment.
- Ability to understand and follow oral or written instructions.
- Ability to work harmoniously with other employees.
- Have CDL or ability to obtain one.

Benefits: The City of Elba offers BCBS Health and Dental Insurance, State Retirement, paid vacation, sick time and holiday pay.

Salary: Based on experience and qualifications.

Applications are available at Elba City Hall, 200 Buford Street, Elba, AL or at [www.elbaalabama.net/job-opportunities](http://www.elbaalabama.net/job-opportunities).All applications should be submitted to City Hall either in person or via email to: [info@elbaal.gov](mailto:info@elbaal.gov).  
EOE

## HOUSE FOR SALE

House for Sale. 3-Bedroom, 2-Bath house in Elba. Approximately 18 minutes from Enterprise. Out of flood zone. ONLY \$47,000. Partially fenced back yard. Large lot. Hardwood floors in some rooms. Separate dining/living room in addition to den. Central H/A. Plus additional means of heating and cooling. Fireplace. Call (334) 701-3586.

2/11-4tpd

## RIDING LAWNMOWER FOR SALE

TROY-BILT "Pony" Riding Lawnmower with towing trailer. 42-Inch Cut. New Battery. Just Serviced. Works Great! If You Need A Reliable Lawnmower Before Grass-Cutting Season Gets Here. Don't Miss This Deal! \$600 for lawnmower/trailer combo. Call (334) 282-3554 [leave message if no answer].

tfc-pd

## AUTOMOTIVE

VEHICLE TITLE Problems? We have a solution! Call Jason Steward Enterprises. We're Alabama's #1 Vehicle Title Problem Experts! Free telephone consultation. North AL 1-256-850-0527, Central AL 1-205-267-5735, South AL 1-251-342-8538.

## FOR SALE

BATHROOM RENOVATIONS. Easy, One Day updates! We specialize in safe bathing. Grab bars, no slip flooring &amp; seated showers. Call for free in-home consultation: 1-877-590-1575.

NEED NEW Flooring? Call Empire Today to schedule a Free in-home estimate on Carpeting and Flooring. Call Today! 1-888-381-0916.

## INSURANCE

ATTENTION MEDICARE Recipients! Open enrollment is upon us! We want to save you money on your medicare supplement plan. Free quotes from top providers. Excellent coverage. Call for no obligation quote to see how much you can save! 1-877-326-0344.

SAVE BIG on home insurance! Compare 20 A-rated insurance companies. Let us do the shopping &amp; save you time and money. Get a quote within minutes. Average savings of \$444/year! Call 1-877-920-0763. (M-F 8am-8pm Central).

SAVE MONEY on your health insurance! Affordable rate on Health Insurance. Let us show you what you can save. Call now! 1-833-592-0964.

## HELP WANTED

JOB OPENING  
Coffee County Highway Department Equipment Operator

Duties and responsibilities include, but are not limited to, operate medium and heavy equipment, trucks, and other vehicles to construct, maintain, and improve roads and drainage systems. Perform additional tasks as assigned. Experience preferred. Must possess a valid Commercial Driver's License (CDL). Fringe benefits include paid vacation, sick leave, health insurance, holidays and State retirement. Starting wage is dependent upon experience. Open until position is filled.

Please apply at [www.coffeecounty.us](http://www.coffeecounty.us).  
Coffee County is an Equal Opportunity Employer.VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT  
Coffee County Maintenance Department Maintenance Technician for Coffee County

Duties and responsibilities include, but are not limited to: perform a variety of skilled installations, repairs, and maintenance in the following areas. Plumbing, electrical, HVAC, painting, carpentry, sheetrock, janitorial, grounds maintenance, and roofing. Work ranges from small repairs to complete remodeling. Experience: Minimum one-year experience required. Qualifications: Valid Driver's License. Fringe Benefits: Paid Vacation, Sick Leave, Health Insurance, Holidays, and State Retirement. Salary: Based on experience. Closing Date: March 4, 2021.

Please apply at [www.coffeecounty.us](http://www.coffeecounty.us).  
Coffee County is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

## THE CITY OF ENTERPRISE

The City of Enterprise, Alabama is accepting applications for the position of Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer. The Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer assists the Mayor, who is the chief executive officer of the City, with financial and accounting issues as to the City and its various personnel and departments. The Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer coordinates the development of the city's annual operating and capital budgets; conducts budget hearings; monitors and analyzes cash balances, revenues, and expenditures to ensure compliance with budget and management objectives; prepares forecasts and revisions as required. Directs all aspects of the Finance &amp; Accounting functions of the City. Provides leadership in the development for the continuous evaluation of short and long-term strategic financial objectives. Ensures credibility of City by providing timely and accurate analysis of budgets, financial trends and forecasts. Provides executive management with advice on the financial implications of City business activities. Manage processes for financial forecasting, budgets and consolidation and reporting of the City. Provides recommendations to strategically enhance financial performance and business opportunities of the City. Acts as Treasurer of the City and keeps accurate records of funds to reflect the City's accurate financial condition.

Position requires a combination of training and experience equivalent to: Graduation from an accredited college or university with a bachelor's degree in accounting, finance, economics or related field as well as a graduate level degree in accounting, finance, business Administration or related field. Possession of a valid driver's license. At least five years of municipal or business administrative experience preferred. Ability to work non-standard hours such as nights, holidays and weekends. Applicants must be bonded or have the ability to become bonded. For more information regarding the position and qualifications, interested candidates are encouraged to visit our website: [www.enterpriseal.gov](http://www.enterpriseal.gov). Position will remain open until filled. The City of Enterprise is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

## CITY OF ENTERPRISE

CITY HALL, 501 S MAIN ST.

ENTERPRISE, AL.

M - F, 7:30 - 4:30.

## THE CITY OF ENTERPRISE

The City of Enterprise, Alabama is accepting applications for the position of City Engineer/Public Works Director. The City Engineer/Director of Public Works generally oversees and directs engineering and public works related services of the City, including, building code applications and enforcement, inspections, public works and infrastructure coordination, and financial issues related to the department, along with supervision of the staff who work in public works and engineering services.

Position requires a combination of training and experience equivalent to: Graduation from an accredited college or university with a bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering as well as least five years of civil engineering experience concentrating in public infrastructure systems, preferably in a municipal, county or state agency setting. Must possess a current license as a professional engineer in the State of Alabama and have been licensed for at least five years. Ability to work non-standard hours such as nights, holidays and weekends. Applicants must be bonded or have the ability to become bonded. Must possess a valid driver's license. For more information regarding the position and qualifications, interested candidates are encouraged to visit our website: [www.enterpriseal.gov](http://www.enterpriseal.gov). Position will remain open until filled. The City of Enterprise is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

## CITY OF ENTERPRISE

CITY HALL, 501 S MAIN ST.

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M - F, 7:30 - 4:30.

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for More Information!

## SPORTS NEWS

Views From  
The Pressbox  
By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

Our grandson Lawson made the most of a trip to Enterprise one afternoon last week and declared McDonald's "has the best chicken nuggets in the world," but the highlight of the visit was the Pokémon cards in his kid's meal. He did eat the nuggets and fries, and even drank milk, but nothing even came close to the cards.

For what it is worth....

\*\*\* The Elba Tigers saw their season draw to a merciful conclusion last week with only two wins as they lost in the opening round of the area tournament. The Tigers won only three games last year and most Elba fans thought it couldn't get any worse, but it did, and over the last two seasons the only wins on their side of the ledger came over New Brockton (2), Kinston (2) and Zion Chapel (1). The Tigers three straight trips to the 'Final Four' now seem like just a distant memory, as Elba basketball has definitely hit hard times. Never fear, payback will be fun!

\*\*\* The Elba Lady Tigers lost in the area finals to G.W. Long after an opening round win over Ariton, but still punched their ticket to the sub-region round to keep their region tourney hopes alive. The Elba girls have played without the services of at least two starters for over a month due to suspensions and Covid quarantines, but they have never made excuses and never backed down. The season may very well be one that will be remembered for what could have been. However, many teams across the state feel the same way, and my guess is the Lady Tigers will use the ups and downs as a lesson that will lead to future success.

\*\*\* The post-season wasn't kind to area teams as only the Kinston Bulldogs managed to punch a ticket to sub-region play. The Bulldogs claimed a narrow win over Red Level to advance to the area finals, and while they did fall in the finals, they had already clinched a sub-region berth. The biggest surprise in the post-season was the fact the Brantley Bulldogs and Brantley Lady Bulldogs were both eliminated in the opening round of the area tournament. The Bulldogs were rolling along undefeated at midseason, but got derailed by Covid quarantines and never recovered, while the Lady Bulldogs were also hit by the pandemic and barely even had enough players left to finish the season. All the area teams did make it to the finish line, but I'm sure everyone will admit it was a season like no other.

\*\*\* The Alabama High School Athletic Association published its monthly newsletter last week and an article that caught my eye was one that stated participation in fall and winter sports in the state had actually increased, despite the complications caused by Covid-19. While the numbers in football did go down by a slight two percent, they still showed that 31,113 student-athletes took to the football field, which is a lot of folks! The numbers in volleyball were up 5.9% to 11,433 and cheerleading also went up by 4.2% to 8,292. All the numbers in winter sports were up, with boys' basketball going up by 1.6% to 13,942, girls' basketball going up by 2.7% to 8,785, and wrestling reporting a 3.2% increase to 3,557. It was great to see the numbers go up as those in the state and across the nation try to get back to normal and live their lives.

\*\*\* I didn't watch one single play of the Super Bowl and obviously didn't hold or attend a Super Bowl party. However, I guess I was in the minority since I read that almost 1.5 million chicken wings were eaten the day of the game and the nation's grocery stores reported sales of over \$3 million of chicken wings in the days leading up to the game. Not to be outdone, those who like pizza also enjoyed the game and the food, as 12.5 million pizzas were either delivered or sold on the day of the game. I haven't looked at the sales of adult beverages, but it has to be pretty high just to wash down all the food!

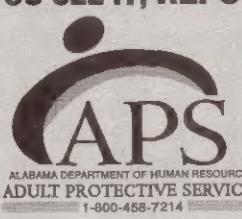
\*\*\* In closing.... My wife and I both got our first vaccines shots last week and are looking forward to the second dose in our continuing attempt to avoid the dreaded virus that has played a part in the deaths of millions across the globe. I know many of our friends have chosen not to become vaccinated; however, I can remember how vaccines wiped out polio and smallpox, and have to believe this one will work, also.

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## 50-49 over Ariton

## Late free throws lift Lady Tigers to win

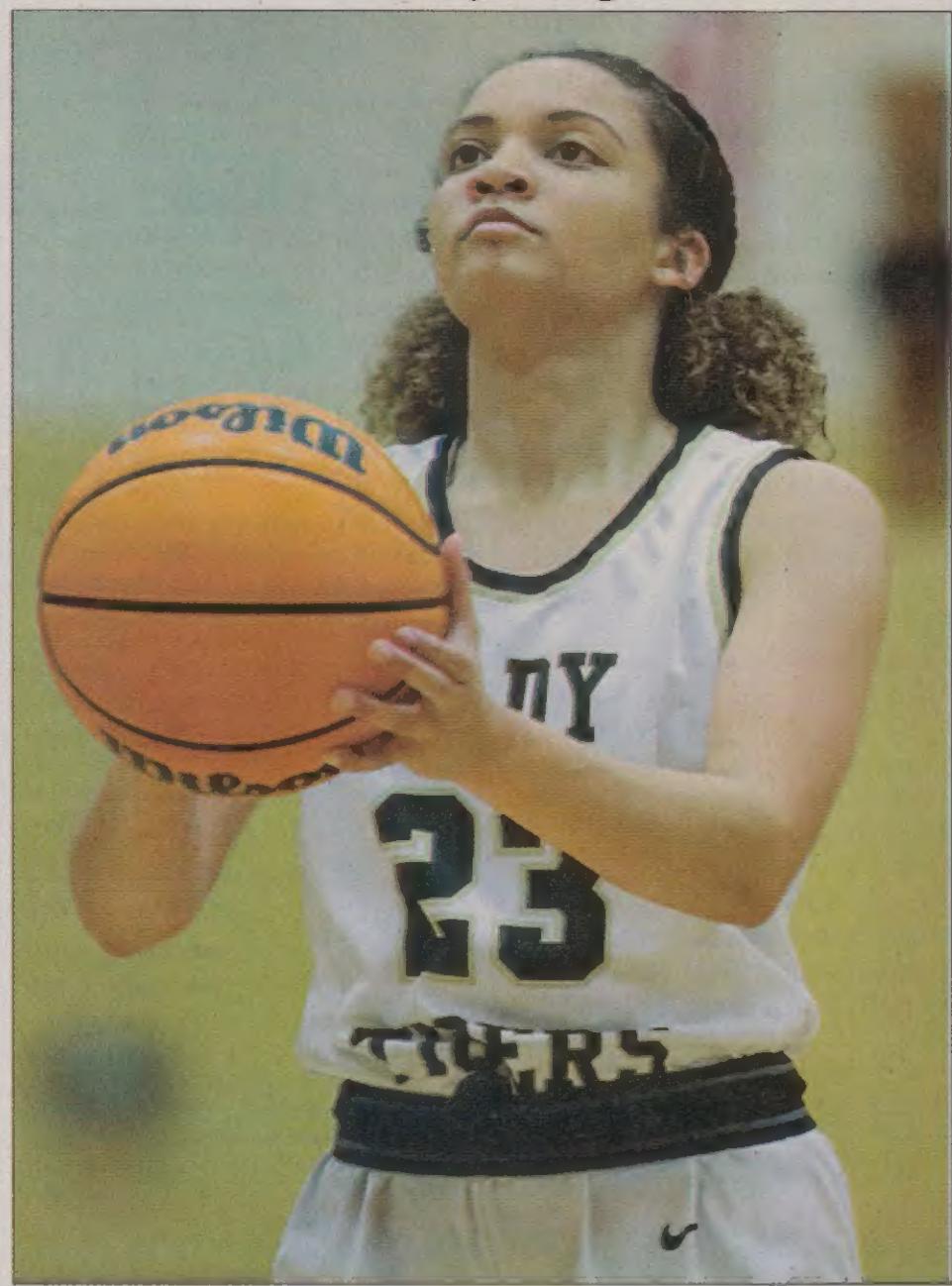
Makinna Gray converted three free throws with less than one second left on the clock to lift the Elba Lady Tigers to a heart stopping 50-49 win over the Ariton Lady Cats, last Monday night in the opening round of the Class 2A, Area 3 basketball tournament, at the Elba High gym.

Elba jumped out to an early 7-0 lead on a 3-pointer by Makinna Gray and two baskets by Jaylyn Baker and was still in command with a 13-6 lead 3:58 remaining in the quarter when Baker added a pair of free throws. Ariton's Alexis Johnson sparked a 6-2 rally that pulled the Lady Cats within 13-11 with 2:31 left in the stanza, but Makinna Gray and Nina Williams scored the final four points of the stanza to give the Lady Tigers a 19-13 advantage.

Ariton opened the second quarter with a 6-0 run to catch Elba at 19-19 with 4:12 remaining on the clock. However, Nina Williams sparked an 8-2 Lady Tiger run that put Elba back on top 27-21 with 1:22 remaining. The Lady Cats staged one more rally late in the half, and led by the play of Zhee Oliver cut the deficit to 29-27 at intermission.

Ariton came out gunning in the third quarter from behind the arc and with Lexie Willoughby and Alexis Johnson both draining long 3-pointers the Lady Cats used a 7-0 run to pull ahead 34-29 with 6:35 left in the stanza.

Elba made a parade to the free throw line for the game's next three minutes and led by Jaylyn Baker used a 6-0 run to move back on top 35-34, only to see Ariton close the quarter with a 5-0 run as the Lady Cats carried a 41-38 lead into the final



Elba Lady Tiger Makinna Gray sank three free throws with less than a second left on the clock to lift the Lady Tigers to a thrilling 50-49 win over Ariton in last week's area tournament opener.

(Photo by BC Sports Photography)

stanza.

Elba owned a 42-40 lead with 7:02 remaining in the fourth quarter, but this time it was Elba's turn to rally and led a pair of 3-pointers by Nina Williams the Lady Tigers went on a 7-0 run to open up a 47-42 lead with 2:21 still left on the clock. A 3-pointer by Ariton's Anna Kilcrease and three

free throws put the Lady Cats back on top 49-47 with 16-seconds left, setting up a late 3-point attempt by Makinna Gray.

Gray was fouled on the

desperation last-second

shot, and calmly hit all

three free throws as the

Lady Tigers escaped with the 50-49 win.

Jaylyn Baker and Nina Williams scored 12 points, while Makenna Long scored 11 to lead Ariton.

**Elba (50):** Baker 12, Williams 12, Tinsley 2, Purvis 6, Gray 10, Caldwell 8.

**Ariton (49):** Kilcrease 11, Kirk 2, Willoughby 9, Allen 2, Oliver 14, Johnson 9, Jones 2.

## Lady Tigers fall in finals 42-38

The Elba Lady Tigers fell behind early and never caught up last Thursday night in a hard fought 42-38 loss to the unbeaten and third-ranked G.W. Long Lady Rebels, in the finals of the Class 2A, Area 3 tournament, at Skipperville.

Jaylyn Baker and Makinna Gray combined for nine first quarter points to spark Elba, but the Lady Tigers hit only 7 of 12 free throw attempts, and watched as G.W. Long nailed three 3-pointers to

open up an early 15-11 advantage. Baker added six points in the second quarter to keep the Lady Tigers within striking distance.

However, the Lady Rebels

never lost command and carried a 26-19 lead in at



Elba Lady Tiger Jaylyn Baker goes up for a basket in last week's win over Ariton. Baker scored a total of 27 points in two games last week to help the Lady Tigers advance to sub-region play.

(Photo by BC Sports Photography)

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